

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with attorney of record Scott Pojunas (Reg. No 62,590) on October 21, 2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claims 23 and 24 are canceled.

Claim 1 line 7, "VLAN configuration information" has been replaced with – the VLAN configuration information --.

Claim 1 line 10, "zero or more" has been replaced with – one or more--.

Claim 1 line 12, "the step of validating comprising:" has been replaced with – comprising:--.

Claim 1 line 16, "a VLAN" has been replaced with – the VLAN --.

Claim 1 line 20, "zero or more" has been replaced with – one or more--.

Claim 2 line 4, "the set of" has been replaced with – the first set of--.

Claim 3 line 5, "zero or more" has been replaced with – one or more--.

Claim 6 line 1, "comprising the further step of" has been replaced with – further comprising--.

9. (Currently Amended) A system including at least one device ~~capable of~~ presenting a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator, the at least one device comprising:

a processor for providing configuration information for a bridged virtual local area network (VLAN) within a communication network[[,]]; ~~the processor is configured to perform steps comprising:~~

~~instructions for~~ presenting said graphical user interface (GUI) to the operator;

~~instructions for~~ receiving an identification of a node and of a physical port through the GUI;

~~instructions for~~ receiving VLAN configuration information from the operator through the GUI, wherein the VLAN configuration information comprises a requested VLAN identifier (ID), a first set of at least one virtual port to be associated with a member set of the VLAN, and a second set of [[zero]] one or more virtual ports to be associated with a forbidden set of the VLAN;

~~instructions for~~ validating the VLAN configuration information, the ~~instructions for~~ validating comprising ~~instructions for~~ ensuring that the first set and the second set have no virtual ports in common;

~~instructions for~~ generating locally a validated VLAN configuration according to the VLAN configuration information, wherein the validated VLAN configuration comprises the first set of at least one virtual port and the second set of [[zero]] one or more virtual ports; and

~~instructions for~~ transmitting the validated VLAN configuration to the node.

Claim 10 line 4, “the set of” has been replaced with – the first set of--.

Claim 11 line 1, “the instruction for receiving VLAN configuration information” has been replaced with – receiving the VLAN configuration information--.

Claim 11 line 6, “instruction for receiving” has been replaced with – receiving--.

Claim 11 line 7, “zero or more” has been replaced with – one or more--.

Claim 14 line 1, “instruction for storing” has been replaced with – storing--.

Claim 17 line 2, “the list” has been replaced with – a list--.

Claim 18 line 1, “instruction for querying” has been replaced with – querying--.

Claim 18 line 2, “the list” has been replaced with – a list--.

Claim 19 line 1, “the step of validating” has been replaced with – validating--.

Claim 20 line 1, “the instruction for validating” has been replaced with – validating--.

Claim 21 line 1, “the step of generating a validated VLAN configuration comprises the step of:” has been replaced with – generating the validated VLAN configuration further comprises:--.

Claim 22 line 1, "the instructions for generating a validated VLAN configuration comprise instruction for:" has been replaced with – generating the validated VLAN configuration comprising:--.

4. Claims 1-3, 6-11 and 14-22 are allowable over the prior art of record.
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance or Examiner Amendment."
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faruk Hamza whose telephone number is 571-272-7969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached at 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll -free).

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